have been referred to the BIFR, the modernisation plan has been placed before the BIFR for their approval before implementation.

Jurisdiction of military courts

1091. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that military courts have not yet been brought under appellate jurisdiction of the Supreme Court; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) and (b) The Constitution of India does not provide for an appeal in the Supreme Court against the finding or sentence or proceedings of a court martial held under the Army Act, the Navy Act or the Air Force Act, as the case may be. Under Article 136(2) of the Constitution, no special leave of appeal lies against any judgement, determination, sentence or order in any case or matter passed by any court or tribunal constituted by or any law relating to the Armed Forces. This is in keeping with the provisions of Article 33 of the Constitution of India, which recognises the overriding and paramount significance of maintenance of discipline among members of the Armed Forces to ensure proper discharge of their duties. However, an individual aggrieved by an order of any court or tribunal constituted by or any law relating to the Armed Forces may move the Supreme Court or any of the High Courts through a writ petition on the grounds of violation of any Fundamental Rights or the Principles of Natural Justice.

Status paper on benefit of Irrigation projects

1092. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether status paper showing the physical benefits and financial progress of major and medium irrigation project in Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe areas have been prepared; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir. Central Water Commission has prepared a status report on irrigation development under Tribal Sub Plan through Major and Medium projects. However, no specific plans for irrigation in scheduled caste areas have been chalked out, since these areas are not segregated and form a part of general social structure which get benefited through the general schemes.

Statement

Major and Medium irrigation projects covered under Tribal Sub Plan (Including pre tribal sub plan)

Sl.No.	Items	Unit	Achievements
1.	Total Projects (Major & Medium)	Nos.	261
2.	Latest estimated cost	Crore Rs.	13387.88
3.	Expenditure to the end of 3/92	Crore Rs.	4542.95
4.	8th Plan Outlay	Crore Rs.	3271.86
5.	Expenditure 1992-93	Crore Rs.	400.133
6.	Expenditure 1993-94	Crore Rs.	436.24
7.	Anticipated expenditure 1994-95	Crore Rs.	420.21
8.	Approved by working Group of Planning Commission 1995-96	Crore Rs.	569.69
9.	Irrigation potential Ultimate Area	Thousand ha.	5766.321
10.	Irrigation potential TSP Area	Thousand ha.	1890.173
11.	Benefit to end of 1991-92 (Potential/Utilised)	Thousand ha.	2516.5/1825.334
12.	8th Plan target 1992—97 (Potential/Utilised)	Thousand ha.	1339.561/895.41
13.	Actual benefits 1992-93 (Potential/Utilised)	Thousand ha.	72.975/87.223
14.	Actual benefits 1993-94 (Potential/Utilised)	Thousand ha.	61.49/103.04
15.	Benefit during 1994-95 anticipated (Potential/ Utilised)	Thousand ha.	101.85/83.27
16.	Benefit during 1995-96 target (Potential/ Utilised)	Thousand ha.	112.815/102.737

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Maintenance and repair of National Highways in West Bengal

1093. SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY:
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the requirement of funds for maintenance and repair of National Highway in West Bengal, as proposed by the State Government for years 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(b) the funds released by Government against the above proposals; and

(c) whether any contingency funds are available for strengthening/repairing of the distressed streches of National Highways in West Bengal, during floods and other calamities?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) and (b) Funds for maintenance and repairs of National Highways demanded by the State Govt. of West Bengal and funds allocated by the Government for the last three years is indicated below:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Demand	Allotment
1993-94	3227.80	1760.45
1994-95	2901.54	1744.02
1995-96	3266.20	1731.33

(c) Out of total allocation available for the maintenance and repair of National Highways in a particular year, funds are also provided for the repair of flood damage or other special repairs needed as per condition of National Highways in various States, including the State of West Bengal.

Taking over of closed Textile Units by Labour Cooperatives

1094. SMT. URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of labour cooperatives which have made demand to take over closed viable textile units in Gujarat and other States of the country;

(b) the number of the cooperatives which have been given permission to start production;

(c) the number of cooperatives which have started production in those units; and

(d) the amount sanctioned to support the labour cooperatives and released for the individual projects?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) to (d) Matter comes under the purview of concerned State Governments.

Improving Indo-Sri Lankan relations

1095. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister visited India in the month of June and sought India's help and aid to rebuilt Jaffna;

(b) if so, the main subjects discussed;

(c) whether the relations between the two countries has been further improved;

(d) whether all the outstanding disputes with Sri Lanka have been discussed and both the countries have agreed to help each other and improve the relations; and

(e) if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir. The Sri Lankan Foreign Minister paid a two day goodwill visit to India on June 20-21, 1996. He conveyed a briefing on the relief and rehabilitation programme being carried out by the Sri Lankan Government in the Jaffna peninsula and sought India's assistance and support for the same. Earlier an Action Plan prepared by the Sri Lankan government for relief and resettlement and rehabilitation programme for the Jaffna peninsula which had interalia, called for international assistance was handed over to selected countries including India.

(b) to (e) The Sri Lankan Foreign Minister was informed that India would be prepared to extend all feasible assistance for relief and rehabilitation of the refugees.